

The Connecticut General Assembly



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STATE REP. GARY TURCO VOTES FOR GAS TAX SAVINGS AND MORE FOR NEWINGTON AND CONNECTICUT RESIDENTS

State Rep. Gary Turco (D-Newington) voted Wednesday in the House of Representatives to pass an emergency bill to ease some of the financial burdens on Newington residents and working families whose budgets and wallets have taken a hit due to rising gas prices and record-breaking inflation levels.

In a 143-0 vote, the House suspended the 25-cent-per-gallon gas tax starting April 1 through June 30. Additionally, there will be free bus rides through June 30 and another sales tax holiday on clothing and shoes under \$100 during the week of April 10.

"I heard the calls and read the emails, Facebook posts, and Tweets calls from people in Newington and across the state who are paying more than \$4 for a gallon of gas," said **Rep. Turco**. "We needed to do something in the General Assembly to help people and did it in a bipartisan way. These actions will help with the affordability crisis due to the war in Europe and global supply chain issues."

Gas Prices in Newington

Price	Station	Time
\$4.09	Sam's Club 76 Rowley Street	Mar 23, 3:46 PM
\$4.11	Xpress Fuel 2499 Berlin Turnpike	Mar 24, 2:01 PM
\$4.13 (cash)	Gas Man 476 Fenn Road	Mar 24, 2:32 PM
\$4.15	Atlantis Fresh Market 2407 Berlin Turnpike	Mar 24, 10:27 AM
\$4.15	Sunoco 3191 Berlin Turnpike	Mar 24, 8:30 AM
\$4.15	CITGO 502 Cedar Street	Mar 23, 9:30 AM
\$4.21	Cumberland Farms 724 Cedar Street	Mar 23, 8:10 AM
\$4.26	Valero 194 Kelsey Street	Mar 23, 9:15 PM

Source: [Gas Buddy](#)

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Rep. Turco added that it is incumbent upon oil and gas companies to now do the right thing by consumers and lower their prices.

"I hope people in Newington will join me in immediately calling on them to do so," said **Rep. Turco**.

The bill also implements safeguards to allow the state to go after anyone who does not lower their prices with a close watch on potential price gouging.

Rep. Turco said if Newington residents see unusual spikes in gas prices, he encourages them to report it to the Connecticut Attorney General's Office, and below are tips for filing a complaint:

- Use the complaint portal [HERE](#)
- Identify the specific location of the gas station or business
- Identify the date and time of offer or sale
- Include documentation, especially receipts

The annual inflation rate topped out at 7.9% in February, which is the highest for any 12 months since 1982. This makes the offer of free bus service through June 30 vital for Newington residents who do not drive but need transportation, according to **Rep. Turco**. During the last two years with the COVID-19 pandemic, bus ridership has not dropped below 50% while commuter trains experienced a steep reduction in ridership.

The sales tax holiday on clothing and shoes begins April 10 and runs for one week, and is in addition to the annual tax-free week that occurs in August.

Targeted tax relief is a legislative priority for **Rep. Turco** to combat the rising cost of living and help those that need it the most. He has introduced legislation for a more expansive property tax credit and strongly supports a child tax credit. **Rep. Turco** will also continue supporting the phased-in elimination of the state income tax for middle-class seniors on their social security, pensions and annuities.

"I am working to secure more robust tax relief for Newington residents and families," said **Rep. Turco**. "Wednesday was just a down payment. More tax relief is coming as we work through our budget adjustments in the next few weeks."

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